

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 06065 241746Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11642: NA

TAGS: SGEN BE

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO CONGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR THE MIDDLE CLASSES

REF: STATE 203878

1. PIERRE WYVEKENS IS BELGIAN CITIZEN AND PRESIDENT OF BELGIAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INSTITUTE FOR THE MIDDLE CLASSES AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE MIDDLE CLASSES. BELGIAN INSTITUTE IS NON-CONTROVERSIAL GOVERNMENT SPONSORED AND FINANCED ORGANIZATION CREATED TO CONDUCT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STUDIES OF INTEREST TO THE GENERALLY CONSERVATIVE "MIDDLE CLASSES" (I.E. SMALL BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE). INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE IS INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION COMPOSED OF SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS FROM NUMBER OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS ACCEPTANCE OF WYVEKENS' INVITATION.

2. IN ADDITION TO ANNIVERSARY CONGRESS OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE, EMBASSY SUGGESTS SBA ADMINISTRATOR CONSIDER FOLLOWING MEETINGS FOR PROPOSED BRUSSELS VISIT:

A. BELGIAN MINISTRY OF MIDDLE CLASSES INTERESTED IN PROGRAMS FOR INCREASING TECHNOLOGICAL R AND D IN SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZE COMPANY SECTOR. MINISTRY IS CONTEMPLATING HOSTING INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON THIS SUBJECT AND HOPES FOR SIGNIFICANT USG PARTICIPATION. SENIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS WOULD LIKE TO

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 06065 241746Z

PROFIT FROM OPPORTUNITY OF MR. KLEPPE'S PROPOSED VISIT TO

BRUSSELS TO DISCUSS THIS PROJECT WITH HIM.

B. BRUSSELS BASED EUROPMI (LIAISON COMMITTEE FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY) IS PLANNING 80 PERSON DELEGATION TO US IN SPRING 1974. EIGHT DAY VISIT TO US WILL BE LARGELY SPENT IN NEW ENGLAND. EUROPMI WISHES ALSO TO SPEND ONE DAY (TENTATIVELY MONDAY, MARCH 4) VISITING SBA. THEY REQUEST BY NOVEMBER 4 (A) TENTATIVE CONCURRENCE BY SBA OF THEIR DESIRE VISIT SBA AND (B) TENTATIVE APPROVAL MR. KLEPPE TO MEET WITH THEM TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE PROGRAM DURING HIS PROPOSED BRUSSELS VISIT.

3. EMBASSY WELCOMES VISIT TO BRUSSELS OF SBA ADMINISTRATOR. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FIRM INFORMATION ON MR. KLEPPE'S TRAVEL PLANS. STRAUZ-HUPE

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